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The Wisconsin Broadcasters Association fosters and promotes the development of the arts of aural and visual broadcastings in all its forms...

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March 29, 2007

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The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW - Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

On behalf of the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association I am enclosing the resolution recently adopted by its Board of Directors. As expressed in the resolution the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association is opposed to the proposed merger of the only two satellite radio companies, XM and Sirius.

The proposed merger will create a government-sanctioned monopoly which is anticompetitive and we ask that on behalf of the citizens of the state of Wisconsin you vigorously oppose the merger and express your opposition to the Department of Justice, the U.S. Attorney General, the Federal Communications Commission and members of the Wisconsin congressional delegation. The proposed merger will result in a monopoly that:

- o violates current Federal Communication Commission rules prohibiting only one provider of satellite radio in the satellite radio market;
- o will be able to exercise unlimited market power which will allow it to raise subscription rates without limit, reduce program diversity and cause subscribers to incur long-run equipment costs;

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- o will be able to monopolize national and regional programming such as sports and entertainment events through exclusive arrangements;
- o will exploit its monopoly power and unfairly compete with other media for national advertising by offering artificially low (subsidized) advertising rates; and
- o will cross-subsidize its offering of new services and unfairly compete with local radio stations through its monopolization of the only national multi-channel, mobile, radio service in the country.

The proposed attempt to create a government-sanctioned monopoly will severely harm consumers, musicians, broadcasters and the public if it is allowed to go through. The Wisconsin Broadcasters Association stands ready to assist you in opposing this merger.

Please feel free for you or staff to call me should you need any information with regard to the harmful impacts this merger will have on the citizens and consumers of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Vetterkind". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michelle Vetterkind, CAE
President